



Today's discussion is from the  
Miscellaneous Category.

## After Action Review part 2

### The "Chainsaw" AAR

It's O'dark thirty. The crew has worked the fire for sixteen hours straight. No one has eaten a hot meal for days and oh yeah, you might as well be cold. No time for the After Action Review? -- Think again!

It's time to bust out the ...**CHAINSAW AAR**. The idea behind the Chainsaw AAR is simple; **SPEED**. When you need to get an After Action Review done quickly try this simple format.

1. Have the team form a loose circle.
2. Start with a single team member and ask one of these questions:

**What is one thing that went well on this shift?**  
**What is one thing that went bad on this shift?**  
**What is one thing you would do different next time?**  
**What is one thing you learned today?**

3. Continue around the circle until everyone has had a chance. It may be necessary to place a time limit on each individual (i.e. 30 seconds).
4. Avoid unnecessary discussion (dinner is waiting).
5. Note the comments for future discussion.

References:

[The Wildland Fire Leadership Development Program website](#) has multiple additional references on conducting effective AARs, many designed specifically for wildland firefighters and leaders.

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**Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.**

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